AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

Claim 1 (currently amended) A method of authorizing use of a card in a gaming machine located in a casino, the method comprising the steps of:

generating first facial image information regarding a person;

storing said first facial information on a card issued to said person;

reading said first facial image information stored on said card at said a gaming machine in said casino;

obtaining current facial image information at said gaming machine of a person using said card at said gaming machine; and

comparing said first facial image information stored on said card with said current facial image information of said person at said gaming machine using said card to confirm that the person using said card is the party to whom the card was issued.

Claim 2 (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 1 including transmitting said current facial image information of said person to a remote location in the event the current visual image information does not match the first facial image information.

Claim 3 (previously presented) The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the step of obtaining current facial image information comprises capturing said image information utilizing a camera mounted to said gaming machine.

Claim 4 (original) The method in accordance with claim 3 wherein said gaming machine has a front which said person generally faces when playing games at said machine, said camera located at said front of said gaming machine.

Claim 5 (original) The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the generating of the first facial image information is performed with a camera generating analog data which is then converted to digital data.

Claim 6 (original) The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the obtaining of the current facial image information is performed using a camera disposed at said gaming machine and which generates analog data which is then converted into digital data so that the comparing of the first facial image information stored on said card with the current facial information is a comparison of digital data.

Claim 7 (original) The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the generating of said first facial image information is performed using a digital camera.

Claim 8 (original) The method in accordance with claim 7 where said digital camera is located at a position remote from said gaming machine.

Claim 9 (original) The method in accordance with claim 1 wherein the obtaining of said current facial image information is performed using a digital camera located at said gaming machine.